

Description

Mobile communication terminal for service type signaling

The invention relates to a mobile communication terminal for operation for at least two mobile radio communication systems in respectively associated mobile radio networks, each of which provides a user of the communication terminal with a number of services of different type.

Communication terminals of this kind are normally "multistandard appliances" which are capable of supporting at least two mobile radio communication standards. In this case, each communication standard normally has an associated mobile radio network. Within these mobile radio networks, service servers are available, for example, which support the provision of a service for the user of the communication terminal.

By way of example, it is thus possible that one and the same mobile communication terminal is operated in a plurality of mobile radio networks and also in a WLAN system, for example. Each of these networks provides a number of services which may partially overlap in terms of their type. Currently, the user of the communication terminal must first of all select the mobile radio network or mobile radio system and then select from the services provided there.

This has the drawback that the user is barely able to obtain an overview of the services which are presented to him by the various mobile radio networks and systems.

Against this background, the invention is based on the object of providing a mobile communication terminal and a mobile

radio arrangement which allows the user of the communication terminal to manage services with which he is provided efficiently.

The object is achieved by a mobile communication terminal having the features of claim 1 and by a mobile radio arrangement having the features of claim 7.

The invention accordingly provides a mobile communication terminal for operation for at least two mobile radio communication systems in respectively associated mobile radio networks, each of which provides a user of the communication terminal with a number of services of different type, where the communication terminal is designed to receive and effect further processing of data records which are associated with one respective type of the services.

A better overview of the services which are provided for the user of the communication terminal by various mobile radio networks or systems is obtained from the fact that the communication terminal is able to receive and effect further processing of data records, which can be regarded as identification information about a respective service type. This is based on the fact that regardless of how diverse services presented are it will always be possible to divide these services into different types, with each type having an associated data record which shows the type of the service in a way which the communication terminal is able to evaluate.

It is conceivable for the use of such data records to be standardized across mobile radio standards, so that one and the same data record always specifies the same service type regardless of the respective mobile radio network or system which is being used. By way of example, a standardized data record of this kind might be based on existing standards, for example on the XML standard.

Preferably, the communication terminal is designed such that it respectively stores services of the same type which are repeatedly provided by the mobile radio networks using the data records in the communication terminal in the form of a service type list. In this embodiment, the data records, which are associated with one respective service type, are used to combine services of the same type within the communication terminal in the form of a list from which it is possible to select. It goes without saying that it is possible to provide a plurality of service types with a corresponding number of lists which are then all stored in the communication terminal.

Preferably, entries in the list of service types have different priority. This means that the communication terminal stores an order of precedence for services of the same type. The priority can be defined on the basis of an assessment criterion. By way of example, an assessment criterion of this kind is a quality for a communication link to the mobile radio network which provides the service, costs to be estimated for use of a service or the like. The assessment criterion may preferably be user-defined. In this way, the user of the communication terminal has the greatest possible influence on the respective service prioritized within a service type.

To make it particularly easy for the user of the communication terminal to select a currently desired service of a specific service type, the communication terminal may be designed such that the list associated with the service type can be shown on a display device on the communication terminal, and also selection means are provided which are used to select a service of a desired service type from the list.

The aforementioned object is achieved for the mobile radio arrangement by a mobile radio arrangement having at least two

mobile radio networks, each of which has an associated mobile radio communication standard, and having at least one mobile communication terminal which is designed for operation for the at least two mobile radio communication standards, with each mobile radio network providing a user of the communication terminal with a number of services of different type, where the at least two mobile radio networks are designed for transmitting data records which are associated with one respective type of the services, and the communication terminal is designed to receive and effect further processing of the data records.

A particular feature of this mobile radio arrangement is that even different mobile radio networks or systems use the same data records in order to identify a particular service type. As already indicated above, these data records may be processed further by the communication terminal such that an order for provided services is permitted according to the type of service.

The data records may preferably contain information which allows the associated services to be assessed by the user. Such information may be costs which are to be expected or else quality features for the service, for example. Therefore, a data record associated with a service type may contain version information about the provided service.

An exemplary embodiment of the invention is explained in even more detail below with reference to the drawing, which shows a schematic block diagram of a mobile radio arrangement.

The mobile radio arrangement shown has an exemplary communication terminal K which can be operated in two mobile radio networks and, to this end, is connected to a first mobile radio network M1 and to a second mobile radio network M2 via respective base stations B1 and B2.

Each of the mobile radio networks ("Core Network") contains a number of service servers which provide respective services of various type for use by the communication terminal.

In the exemplary embodiment presented, the mobile radio network M1 provides a sports information service, a weather forecasting service and a voice service. The same services are also provided within the mobile radio network M2.

When the communication terminal K registers both in the mobile radio network M1 and in the mobile radio network M2, these mobile radio networks use their respective base stations B1, B2 to signal their respectively provided services, namely the three services listed above.

This signaling is performed using data records which are standard for the two mobile radio networks M1 and M2 and denote a respective service type. In the present exemplary embodiment, a total of three service types are provided which are respectively provided by both mobile radio networks M1, M2. When the communication terminal K registers with the two mobile radio networks M1, M2, three respective data records are therefore transmitted to the communication terminal K which show that the first mobile radio network M1 provides the three services of the sports information service, the weather forecasting service and the voice service, while the same services are also provided by the second mobile radio network M2. The data records transmitted contain information, such as version numbers and/or prices, for the services which they show.

The communication terminal K receiving the data records has a service data record detection device 1 which is connected to an air interface on the communication terminal K and in this way detects the service data records. The

communication terminal K also has a total of three memories 2A, 2B, 2C which are associated with one respective service type. An association of this kind may be made by the user, for example.

The memory 2A is provided for sports information services and therefore contains services and their connection data (IP addresses) which have been signaled by one of the mobile radio networks M1 and M2 to the communication terminal K using the data record for sports information services. A similar situation applies to the memories 2B, 2C for the further services of weather forecasting service and voice service.

In addition, the communication terminal K has a display device 3 which can be linked to all the memories 2A, 2B, 2C. In this case, a user of the communication terminal K can call up the content of a desired list by operating an associated input key on an input device 4. In addition, the input device 4 allows the user to make a prioritization within one of the lists which are contained in the memories 2A, 2B, 2C, so that a respective header end of one of the lists respectively displays the data for that service which is distinguished by optimum meeting of an assessment criterion which the user has stipulated, whereas the further list entries are intended to be noticeable only when the first list entry is not available.

When the user wishes to use a weather forecasting service, he uses the input device 4 serving as selection means to select the associated memory 2B, whose content is then shown on the display device 3. On the basis of its being shown, the desired service of the "weather forecasting service" type can then be selected from the list. Alternatively, it is also possible for merely the selection of the "weather forecasting service"

service type to be taken as a basis for selecting the service situated at the first location in the list in the memory 2B automatically using the air interface on the communication terminal K.

Patent Claims

1. A mobile communication terminal (K) for operation for at least two mobile radio communication systems in respectively associated mobile radio networks (M1, M2), each of which provides a user of the communication terminal with a number of services of different type,

characterized in that

the communication terminal (K) is designed to receive and effect further processing of data records which are associated with one respective type of the services.

2. The communication terminal as claimed in claim 1,
characterized in that

it is designed such that services of the same type which are repeatedly provided by the mobile radio networks (M1, M2) are respectively stored using the data records in the communication terminal (K) in the form of a list of service types.

3. The communication terminal as claimed in claim 2,
characterized in that
entries in the list of service types have different priority.

4. The communication terminal as claimed in claim 3,
characterized in that
an assessment criterion is defined for the priority.

5. The communication terminal as claimed in claim 4,
characterized in that
the assessment criterion is user-defined.

6. The communication terminal as claimed in one of claims 1 to 5,

characterized in that

it is designed such that the list can be shown on a display device (3) on the communication terminal (K), and selection means (4) are provided for selecting a service of a desired service type from the list.

7. A mobile radio arrangement having at least two mobile radio networks (M1, M2), each of which has an associated mobile radio communication standard, and having at least one mobile communication terminal (K) which is designed for operation for the at least two mobile radio networks, with each mobile radio network (M1, M2) providing a user of the communication terminal (K) with a number of services of different type,

characterized in that

the at least two mobile radio networks (M1, M2) are designed for transmitting data records which are associated with one respective type of the services, and

the communication terminal (K) is designed to receive and effect further processing of the data records.

8. The mobile radio arrangement as claimed in claim 7,
characterized in that

the data records contain information which allows the associated services to be assessed by the user.

Abstract

Mobile communication terminal for service type signaling

In the case of a mobile communication terminal (K) for operation for at least two mobile radio communication systems in respectively associated mobile radio networks (M1, M2), each of which provides a user of the communication terminal (K) with a number of services of different type, the object of allowing a user to effect efficient management of the services provided for him is achieved by virtue of the communication terminal (K) being designed to receive and effect further processing of data records which are associated with one respective type of the services.

The invention also presents a mobile radio arrangement.

Figure